

Personal News, Facts, Fancies and Brief Happenings Abroad as Told by the Cables

EUROPE IN NEW  
PLAN TO GET AID  
OF U. S. BANKERS

Meeting at The Hague Will  
Try to Solve Exchange  
Problem.

ANARCHY DANGER LOOMS

Lack of Support Is Delaying  
Financial Conference of  
League of Nations.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD, Copyright, 1920, by THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD.  
LONDON, March 27.—Repulsed by Carter Glass when he was United States Secretary of the Treasury in their attempt to enlist the cooperation of the United States Government through a memorial by European bankers last January, leaders of European finance have mutually agreed that the economic situation obtaining on the Continent is so serious that other urgent measures must, if possible, be taken to engage the attention and help of America. It is now intended to get small groups of leading international bankers to gather at The Hague and work out a practical road map for the chaotic foreign exchange situation.

Although the League of Nations hopes to call an international financial conference in May, there is no hope that it will result in any satisfactory action, because the conference will lack the moral backing of America and will be composed chiefly of politicians, unable either to formulate or to carry out a practical plan of financing the Continent. Consequently there is an urgent necessity for finding a substitute that will have American support and result in a gathering of capable bankers instead of politicians. It is understood that the League of Nations conference will be postponed because of lack of proper banking support, and in so far as the prospect of its holding in any benefit to the Continent, it is as well not to hold it.

Dutch Bankers Lead Plan.

The initial step of finding a substitute for the League of Nations conference has been taken by W. Westerman, president of the Rotterdam Bankers' Association, one of the leading banks of Holland. He has just returned home after a conference with the principal bankers of England, before whom he placed suggestions for measures which he believed necessary to obtain effective results. The plans discussed in London, the correspondent of THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD learned, were similar to those broached by Mr. Westerman at the end of his trip to America last December, when he talked the matter over with leading New York bankers and with Sir Richard Vassar Smith, chairman of the Joint City and Midland Bank; F. C. Goodenough, chairman of Barclay's Bank; and Walter Leaf, chairman of the London County and Westminster Bank; W. H. Goeben, head of the Cunliffe-Goeben firm, and many other prominent in the British financial world.

Mr. Westerman and other bankers believe that unless financial action is taken soon there will be widespread panic with other outbreaks in Germany and, perhaps, in France and other continental countries. The present situation is a delicate one, because any financial conference, no matter when it is held, will be of limited scope. It is the original intention of the bankers to the memorial addressed to the various Governments in January to have the conference limited to a few bankers without authorization to pledge the aid of any Governments, but having the moral support of their respective Governments that the plan to have private credit would be approved when these bankers reported back from the conference. The action of Mr. Glass when he assumed that the Government loans were to be secured by the bankers, but he was not to be asked to extend to permit even private issues of foreign loans. Rather they would want assurances that the Governments interested would approve the plan publicly as a good thing and make it simpler to place credits with investors and avoid inflation.

This is the question that bankers on the Continent are trying to master is how to get the help for which they are seeking. It is suggested that the further misunderstandings in which Washington officials might believe that they were angling for further Government loans or that England was seeking help for itself. From their point of view it is to say that they desire the moral support of the United States Government, but do not wish to imply that they are seeking the reestablishment of war-time methods of direct Government help. England has abandoned that method, and therefore could not very well expect the United States to resume it.

Want U. S. to Take Initiative.

There is a well defined move on the part of American bankers to have Americans take the initiative in reaching a real conference. That it is being here, would help prevent misunderstandings. It is suggested that one of the leading New York bankers, a man like Charles Sabin of the Guaranty Trust Company or H. P. Brown of J. P. Morgan & Co.—were to suggest that about fifteen of the

BRITISH BANKER  
PLEADS FOR U. S.  
TO AID EUROPE

Hopes for Change in Attitude, as America Is Needed in Reconstruction.

COOPERATION IS NEEDED

Hints at Soviet Recognition, as Russia's Supplies Are Vital to Many.

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LONDON, March 27.—Sir Richard Vassar Smith, chairman of Lloyd's Bank, one of the five largest financial institutions in the British Empire, talked to a correspondent of THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD on general European economic conditions. He said that he was a good friend of America and numbered several prominent American bankers among his closest acquaintances.

"I hesitate to criticize America because, from a certain viewpoint, I sympathize with your hesitancy to mix up with European politics, which would be contrary to American traditions," he said. "I think that the League of Nations is worth trying, although I see no reason for objecting to any reservations America might want to make to the covenant."

But so far as giving credit to Europe in cooperation with England and neutral nations, I think that America could help a great deal by making a change in her attitude. However, if America does not choose to join England and the neutrals in giving financial aid to the Continent, I see no reason why we who are able to do so should not go ahead and do the best we can anyhow. Much of the cooperation of the United States would simplify the task."

Sir Richard agreed that America was a vital link in the chain of reconstruction and that unless she joins in the international plan or takes part in the international conference it is going to be a difficult matter to work out a practical scheme. Also he agreed with the views of other leading English bankers previously quoted in THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD that the economic provisions of the peace treaty cannot be carried out and will have to be revised some time or other, and that fiscal aid to Germany is one of the most necessary steps require to restore Europe.

But Sir Richard was less frank about his criticism than some other bank presidents have been. Referring to the manner in which France caused drastic modification of the Allied Supreme Council's economic manifesto regarding leniency toward Germany, he said: "We must not be too critical of France. Certainly she has hesitated to give aid to America last December, when he talked the matter over with leading New York bankers and with Sir Richard Vassar Smith, chairman of the Joint City and Midland Bank; F. C. Goodenough, chairman of Barclay's Bank; and Walter Leaf, chairman of the London County and Westminster Bank; W. H. Goeben, head of the Cunliffe-Goeben firm, and many other prominent in the British financial world."

PRINCE DEPARTS ON KING'S ANNIVERSARY

Sails Nineteen Years After Father's Tour of Dominion.

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LONDON, March 27.—The outbreak of influenza which caused the postponement of the departure of the Prince of Wales for Australia has had the effect of producing an interesting coincidence. The date of his departure from Portsmouth was the nineteenth anniversary of the sailing of his parents on the Ophir for their memorable tour in the dominions.

LADY GEDDES NOT AMERICAN.

Born in This State, But Father not Naturalized.

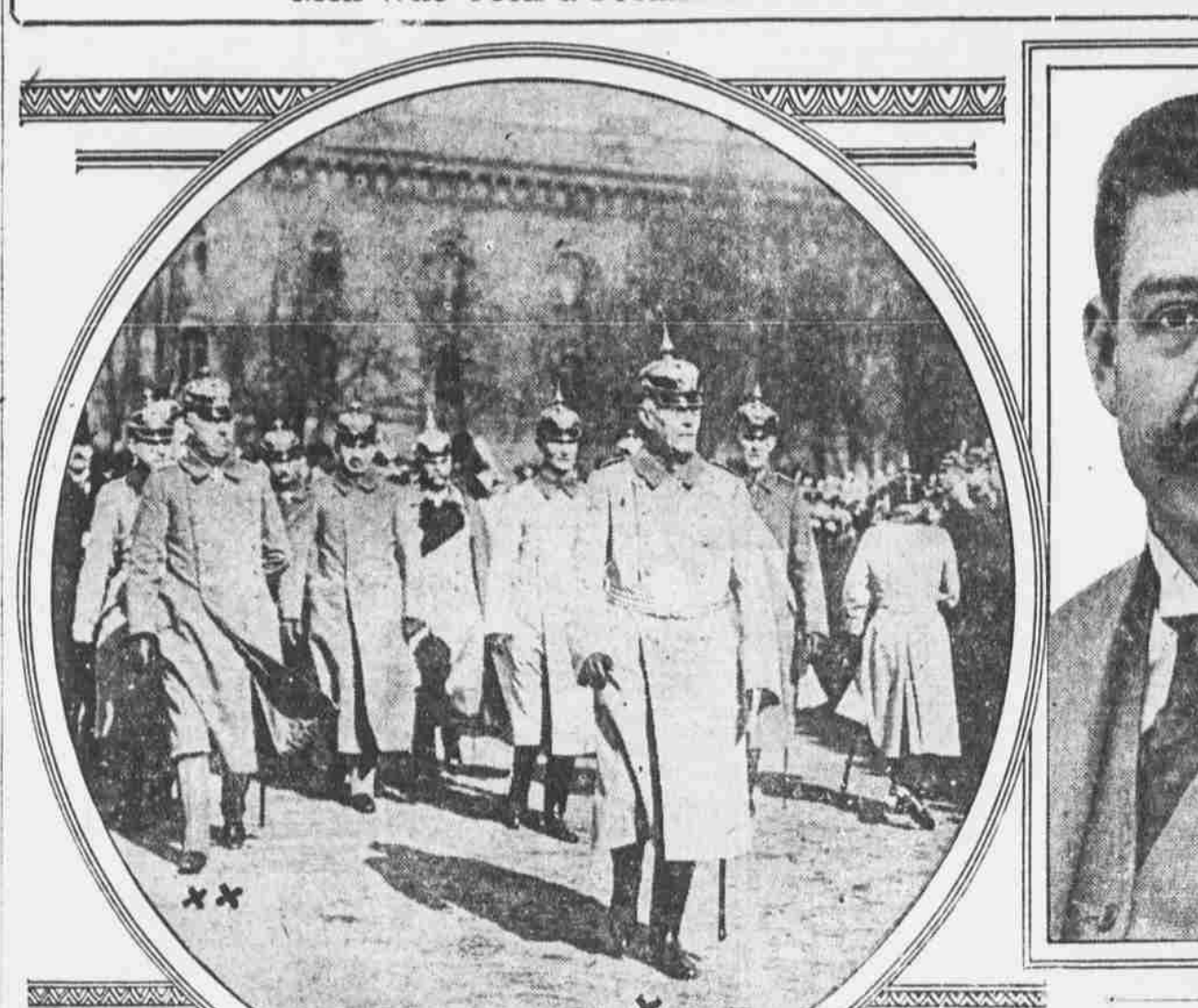
LONDON, March 27.—Lady Geddes, wife of the newly appointed British Ambassador, is generally spoken of as an American woman.

This, the Pall Mall Gazette points out, is incorrect. Lady Geddes was born in New York State and educated at Windsor, Nova Scotia, but she is the daughter of W. A. Rose of Belfast, who, the paper says, was never naturalized.

To Sell Wooden Shoes Here.

THE HAGUE, March 27.—Dutch manufacturers are going to introduce the wooden shoe to the American people. Representatives of several large factories have left for the United States, where they will try to interest wholesale and retail shoe dealers in wooden footwear.

Men Who Took a Prominent Part in the German Revolt



WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

LAMONT TELLS JAPS TO AID U. S. IN CHINA

Cooperation of Two Countries Needed for Flowery Republic, He Says.

SEES DANGER OTHERWISE

Mikado's Subjects Fear That Strained Relations With Washington Are Near.

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TOKYO, March 27.—The need of the United States and Japan to work in close cooperation in connection with the financing of China was emphasized by Thomas W. Lamont of the banking house of J. P. Morgan & Co. in an address at a dinner given to him and the members of the American mission by the Japanese government. Mr. Lamont is in the Far East in connection with the Chinese consortium and other financial problems in the Far East. Last reports indicated that the United States and Japan were not in complete accord over certain details of the proposed loan agreement, it being said that Japan was unwilling for Manchuria and other parts of China within her "sphere of influence" to participate in the security for the loan.

Baron Shibusawa, president of the First Bank of Tokyo and one of Japan's leading financiers, presided at the dinner. "Unless America and Japan cooperate to finance China all must suffer," Mr. Lamont said. He predicted that the United States would accept the League of Nations.

American commercial delegates, working for closer business relations between the United States and Japan, held their first meeting with Japanese officials and business men here yesterday. Representatives from the Pacific Coast spoke of the situation there as it concerned the Japanese.

The California delegate declared that in so far as the Japanese were concerned, the situation in California was worse than ever before, being aggravated by a widespread anti-Japanese sentiment growing out of the Shantung settlement made in the Treaty of Versailles and the situation in Korea and Siberia. Japanese in the meeting were impressed by the frankness with which he spoke.

Japan's diplomatic and military mistakes since the presentation of the so-called twenty-one demands on China in May, 1915, and the agitation by the alarmist press, as well as by politicians in the forthcoming elections, make possible strained relations between the United States and Japan, according to opinions expressed at a political meeting here yesterday at which Baron Shibusawa presided.

AMERICAN MOVIES FOR FRENCH PUBLIC

Broncho Billy Anderson Is Head of the Enterprise.

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PARIS HAS ROOM FOR U. S. TOURIST HORDE DUE SOON

Hotel Proprietors Say Reports to Contrary Are German Propaganda.

RATES WILL BE HIGH

Once Gay City Now Presents Dreary Appearance, Owing to Lighting Restrictions.

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PARIS, March 27.—France is eagerly awaiting American tourists and, what is more important, she has facilities almost as ample as before the war to entertain them, according to statements made to a correspondent of THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD by hotel proprietors and officials of the hotel mens association. Categorical denials were made to reports current abroad and even in sections of the French press that hotel accommodations, food and the transportation service were unable to "fill the bill" except at exorbitant prices.

It has been repeated so often that rooms were not to be had in Paris that the world doubtless believes it, but M. Duhamel, president of the syndicate of the general hotel industry, asserts that such reports are only a part of the campaign against France, possibly growing out of foreign opposition to various stands which the French Government took in the Peace Conference. He says that the hotel proprietors' returns indicate that between 25 and 40 per cent. of the rooms of good hotels are unoccupied, while completely reorganized staffs and, in many instances, thoroughly renovated hostels are awaiting patrons.

Regarding prices in these hotels, M. Duhamel says they have about doubled since pre-war days, but that the increase is in far less proportion than is the case in all other lines of trade. He is inclined to believe that the discrediting reports emanate from Germany, who is anxious to put her former prestige in the hands of the French, who are still under going repairs following their occupation by peace missions, are open for business, with newly gilded doors and footmen in new uniforms awaiting both patrons and tips.

Reports received here from the provinces also indicate that preparations are complete to receive those tourists who do not mind paying the high prices. Automobile tourists will find the famous French roads in even better condition than before the war if the action taken by the Touring Club of France succeeds. The club has asked the Minister of Public Works to speed up road repair work in the war areas, as well as to repair roads through the rest of France, some of which have suffered from disuse during the war.

Paris just now is perhaps dearer than ever in its history, due to a series of strikes entailing innumerable restrictions on the life of the city. These strikes, imposed during the war, closed at night everything closed, a situation that is so exasperating to many persons that all the Montmartre restaurants themselves have gone on strike and refuse to open again until the Government removes the food and light regulations. However, various public officials have insisted that these restrictions be maintained, and with the Northern France coal strike nearing an end and the imminence of the passage of a drastic anti-strike law of force, it is probable that in a short time Paris will resume its old-time gaiety and will be ready to entertain America's wealthy and, incidentally, thirty sojourners.

SOCIAL OPERA GLASS TURNED ON DUCHESS

Consuelo of Marlborough Undergoes Court Ordeal.

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LONDON, March 27.—The Duchess of Marlborough went through a trying ordeal last Monday at the court hearing of her suit for a restitution of her conjugal rights. The case attracted a great crowd of curious men and women, many of whom are prominent in British society but did not hesitate to level their opera glasses at the Duchess, as she appeared in court, and, as she came, she was surrounded by a throng of photographers and reporters.

The Duchess was dressed in severe black satin and wore a cloak of chinchilla with a toque of the same color and a long rope of pearls around her neck. She was accompanied by her counsel, Sir Edward Carson.

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FRENCH DEBATE A CELIBACY TAX ON BOTH SEXES

Public Opinion Favors "Luxury" Levy Chamber Is Considering.

ECONOMIC EFFECT SEEN

"Will Highten Woman's Ever-Increasing Egotism," Is View of Many.

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PARIS, March 27.—France's justly famed and highly involved methods of taxation, which are augmented by a new levy of a sort frequently discussed in America and in England, but of a character far in advance of anything ever actually proposed in those countries.

The Chamber of Deputies is grappling with a measure taxing celibacy 10 per cent. It is held by many persons here that celibacy is taxable wealth, and that makes this remarkable measure even more remarkable in the fact that it does not respect sex, the bachelor's pocketbook and the spinster's stocking being equally hit. In thus pointing the punitive finger of taxation at both sexes France crumbles an age-old dogma that non-marriage is the bachelor's fault and places man and woman on an equal plane of culpability.

What bearing such indirect, yet forceful, recognition of equality of the sexes may have on the course of future events may well be left to feminists to enumerate, and yet the immediate situation produced in France by the proposal is the favorable reception of the proposed measure are not without far reaching consequences and poignant concern.

Threshing It Out Thoroughly.

Commentators in the daily press here, as well as in periodicals, are threshing out the question as only Frenchmen can discuss sex, with the result that some original remarks read and heard in Paris might make American newspaper readers blush.

Second, a profound conviction arising from such legislation, the French leave nothing to the imagination, particularly where the generally known standard of French morals is concerned. First, women are to have few suitors in France, because there is virtual unanimity among commentators—presumably men—that, after all, the alleged cause of the sex revolution is misplaced, inasmuch as woman is of such independent character as to be able to live without male companionship, while with a man female companionship is imperative. In other words, the unmarried state represents a sacrifice by man rather than by woman; hence if strict justice be done women, instead of men, should pay the tax. Second, male commentators seem to be perfectly willing to compromise on the matter of the tax and to call everything square, with the same levy against each sex.

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